

SOPRA Surface Retarder

Concrete Surface Retarder

Description

SOPRA Surface Retarder is a concrete retarder specially formulated for treating the contact faces of the formwork to delay the setting time of the surface matrix, so that after removing the formwork, the surface film of cement and sand may be washed or brushed away leaving aggregate exposed on a clean textured surface or as a keyed background for plasterwork.

Uses

- * Surface retarder for producing exposed concrete finish.
- * Keyed background for plasterwork.
- * Construction joints in structural concrete without the expense of hacking or brush hammering.

Advantages

- * Delays the hydration of cement without reducing the ultimate strength of concrete.
- * Suitable for most casting conditions.
- * Suitable for large units where heat of hydration is excessive.

Packaging

20 litre pails

Storage

12 months storage life when stored in sealed original containers in a cool and dry place and must be protected from frost.

Properties

Form	Liquid	
Colour	Lilac, Green, Brown	
Depth of etching		
	Light, 1-2 mm	Lilac
	Medium, 2-4 mm	Green
	Deep, 4-6 mm	Brown
Coverage, m ² /l	3.5-5	

Application Instruction

SOPRA Surface Retarder should be well stirred before use. All moulds and formwork must be clean and free from water, oil and grease. Apply **SOPRA** Surface Retarder evenly using a brush to the interior surface of the forms at least one hour before the concrete is poured. Once treated, the moulds must be protected from rain and other means of damage. Hot weather will reduce the retardation period. Avoid air voids between the moulds and concrete face. When placing, tamping or vibrating the concrete, care should be taken such that the flow of the material across the face of the mould is kept to a minimum. Poker vibration should not be allowed to scour the internal face of the mould. Concrete should generally be released from mould within 48 hours after placing the wet mix and the surface should then be immediately sprayed with water while all loosely adhering material is brushed away. Depending upon the thickness at which **SOPRA** Surface Retarder is applied, the retarding effect can be extended up to seven days if required. As soon as the moulds are released they should be washed with water to remove any adhering unset cement. Loose material, which is washed away,

should not be left to lie at the base of the concrete where it can become hard and difficult to remove. The moulds should be recoated with SOPRA Surface Retarder before re-use.

Cleaning

Use water to clean all tools and equipments.

Compatibility

SOPRA Surface Retarder is suitable for use with ordinary Portland, rapid hardening and high alumina cements. When rapid hardening cement is being used or when elevated curing temperatures are employed, it is advisable to produce trial panels to ascertain the optimum time for which the retarder is functional. With high alumina cements the concrete should be released from the forms and the surface washed off within 6-8 hours of pouring.

Precautions

Health and Safety

SOPRA Surface Retarder is non-hazardous. It should not be swallowed or allowed to come into contact with skin or eyes. Suitable protective goggles and gloves should be worn. In the case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice. When contact with the skin is made, wash off immediately with soap and water. If swallowed, seek medical attention immediately, do not induce vomiting.

Technical Support

SOPRA provides on-site assistance and consulting services on projects when requested. Technical data sheets on other SOPRA products and guidance on their use are available on request.

Warranty

SOPRA products are guaranteed against defective materials and manufacture and sold subject to SOPRA standard terms and conditions of sale. Whilst SOPRA endeavours to ensure that any advice, information or recommendation given is correct, the company can not accept any liability either directly or indirectly arising from the use of its products, since the company has no control over the application of its products. Information contained in this document is given on the best current knowledge. SOPRA policy is one of continuous improvement and the company reserves the right to change its products without prior notice.